

Children and Youth: Our Most Precious Resource

Children are the greatest natural resource of our local community. Children's Charitable Alliance represents local charities that are committed to feeding, clothing, educating, protecting, and inspiring children. Children's Charitable Alliance works to make your community a better place to live!

Did you know?

- **13 million or approximately 17.8% of children in the U.S. live in poverty** (For Washington State, this figure is 250,805, or 17% of Washington's children). The rate of poverty for both Washington State and the United States as a whole for children under 18 remains **higher** than those aged 18 and over.
- According to USDA estimates, **7.0 million or 17.6% of households** in the United States with children under age 18 were **food insecure** in 2004.
- **Every 51 seconds, a child is born without health insurance in the United States.** This works out to about 1,701 children a day, or 620,000 children a year. For the current population of children living without health insurance, it would cost about **\$26 billion dollars, or between 3 to 4% of the current federal budget.**
- **Washington State ranks in the bottom fifth** of all 50 states when it comes to per capita **public arts funding**, providing 55 cents or less per resident for arts programming and education. Many times, this means having to **cut arts programs from schools.**
- **80,000 cases of child sexual abuse** are reported in the United States each year, but the number of unreported instances is far greater, because the children are afraid to tell anyone what has happened, and the legal procedure for validating an episode is often very difficult.
- Washington State currently has about **9,500 foster children** living in **6,000 foster homes**, and still many more children who are awaiting placement. It is estimated that due to poor training and support, fewer than 100 of the existing foster homes can accept "medically high-risk" children.

Want to know more about how you can help organizations that serve children and youth? Talk to your Employee Giving Program Coordinator and ask for a catalog, or check out the Employee Giving Program website at www.metrokc.gov/giving. Remember, Giving Works!

The nonprofits in our federation have made many achievements through the generous support of donors just like you. Here are a few:

The Wyatt Holiday Foundation was able to send 3 teachers and 4 teachers' aides from Black Lake Elementary School to an Autism conference in Seattle hosted by Future Horizons.

Since 1976, **The World Association for Children and Parents** have supplied vitamins, health care, medical supplies, toys, clothing and education to more than 160,000 children.

Each year, the **SKIFORALL Foundation** is able to provide instruction and outdoor activities including cycling, hiking, water skiing, and camping to more than 1,800 children and adults with disabilities.

In 2005, **Christmas House** was able to provide a total of 7,621 children, infants and teens from 2,716 families with clothing, blankets, toys and personal items during the holiday season.

Each day, **Kids Co.** is able to provide 300 children with quality day care and after-school programs. More than 30% of those children are receiving child care scholarships.

The Seattle Ronald McDonald House provides a caring, supportive home for 1,500 families a year who are in Seattle while their children are being treated at Children's Hospital.

Each year, **The Family Resource Center** is able to provide 50,000 East King County residents with medical and dental care, youth activities, mental health counseling, education and support services, therapeutic programs for at-risk youth, and much more.

Nonprofits doing work in this area:

Adopt-A-Stream Foundation
Alliance for Education
Asthma & Allergy Foundation of America
Bethany Christian Services of Washington
Books for Kids
C.A.S.T. for Kids Foundation
Catholic Community Services
Child Abuse, Sexual & Domestic Violence
Prevention Center
Children's Alliance
Children's Tumor Foundation
Christmas House
City Year Seattle/King County
Cocoon House
Community Resources Foundation
Families and Friends of Violent Crime Victims
Family Resource Center
Feed The Children
Foster Parent Association, National
Gluten Intolerance Group of North America
Greater Maple Valley Community Center
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies
Harborview Center for Sexual Assault & Traumatic
Stress
Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies
Holly Ridge Center
International Youth Foundation
Kids Co.
Kitsap Community Resources
Listen & Talk
Mercer Island Youth and Family Services Foundation
Pacific Science Center
Ronald McDonald House Charities of Western WA
Seattle Milk Fund
Shoreline Public Schools Foundation
SKIFORALL Foundation
World Association for Children and Parents
Wyatt Holiday Foundation